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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/041,763	01/10/2002	Hideki Mizuno	D-1233	3187
7590	11/06/2003		EXAMINER	
KANESAKA AND TAKEUCHI 1423 Powhatan Street Alexandria, VA 22314			DRAPER, DEANN L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3616	

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2003

*Remained
3-204*

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/041,763	MIZUNO ET AL.	
	Examiner Deanna L. Draper	Art Unit 3616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 10 and 11 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 10 January 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 9 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: in Claim 1, the recitation of an inflator with a bottle storing a high pressure gas and a housing having a curved air passage and having an end located in front of the sealing plate where a piston provided inside the housing is urged toward the sealing plate to rupture the sealing plate to allow the high pressure gas to linearly eject from the bottle, along with the rest of the recited elements, defines over prior art.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deanna L. Draper whose telephone number is 703-306-5939. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul N. Dickson can be reached on 703-308-2089. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.

DEANNE DRAPER
PATENT EXAMINER
dld

Deanna Draper 10/30/03
PAUL N. DICKSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Acknowledgements

The Amendment filed by the Applicant on August 18, 2003.

The indicated allowability of claim 10 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Rizzi et al. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

and 11 are
Claims 10, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rizzi et al. (US 5,529,333). Rizzi discloses a cylindrical bottle for storing a high pressure gas (20 in Fig. 1) having an opening at one side thereof, a sealing plate (66 in Fig. 5) attached to the bottle for sealing the opening, a diffuser (40 in Fig. 5) connected to the bottle adjacent to the sealing plate, and having a gas ejecting port (50 in Fig. 5) at a side opposite to the opening of the bottle, and a side surface (see 44, 47 in Fig. 5), a housing (70 in Fig. 5) attached to the side surface of the diffuser and having an inner end (see area 74 in Fig. 5) located in front of the sealing plate, an initiator (100 in Fig. 5) for generating an air blast disposed in the housing, and a piston (104 in Fig. 5) provided inside a barrel (82 in fig. 5) inside the housing so that upon actuation of the initiator, the piston is urged toward the sealing plate by the air blast to rupture the same to allow the high pressure gas to linearly eject from the bottle (see Fig. 6).